



# **GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS**

**COMMISSIONERS COURT** 722 Moody, County Courthouse, Galveston, Texas 77550 (409) 766-2244

Mark Henry      Patrick Doyle      Kevin O'Brien      Stephen Holmes      Ken Clark  
County Judge    Commissioner, Precinct 1    Commissioner, Precinct 2    Commissioner, Precinct 3    Commissioner, Precinct 4

## **SPECIAL MEETING-AGENDA October 22, 2012 –11:00AM**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** ALL ITEMS MARKED WITH A SINGLE ASTERISK (\*) ARE PART OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AND REQUIRE NO DELIBERATION BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT. ANY COMMISSIONERS COURT MEMBER MAY REMOVE AN ITEM FROM THIS AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons in need of a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding shall, within three (3) days prior to any proceeding contact the County Judge's office at 722 Moody, Galveston, Texas 77550 (409) 766-2244.

1. Call to Order Specially Scheduled Meeting – 11:00 a.m.
2. Approval of *Accounts Payable Checks dated 10/22/12* submitted by County Auditor.
3. Consideration of adopting travel policy changes as submitted by the County Auditor.
4. Consideration of approving Request for Reorganization of District Attorney's office submitted by Human Resources/District Attorney.
5. Direct county employees to address and respond to GLO needs/requests to move forward with Bolivar Pen. Waste Water project and issue Work Orders for Engineering and Environmental and remove any unilateral actions that have placed the project on hold submitted by County Commissioner Precinct 1.
6. Consideration of removal of Bolivar Waste Water CDBG Round 1 project and replace with an eligible alternate project to be determined submitted by County Judge.
7. Adjourn Special Meeting.

### **Appearances before Commissioners Court**

A speaker whose subject matter as submitted relates to an identifiable item of business on this agenda will be requested by the County Judge or other presiding court member to come to the podium where they will be limited to three minutes (3). A speaker whose subject matter as submitted does not relate to an identifiable item of business on this agenda will be limited to three minutes (3) and will be allowed to speak before the meeting is adjourned. Please arrive prior to the meeting and sign in with the County Clerk.

\*\*\*

AGENDA

ITEM

#2

# Galveston County, Texas

List of County Auditor's Approved Claims For Voucher Warrants Dated 10/22/2012

<u>Invoice Number</u>	<u>Account Info</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>FUND: 2420 Indigent Health Care Fund</b>		
<b>Warrant #. VW 00361002</b>	<b>Payee Name. STATE OF TEXAS</b>	
SEPT 2012	2420440110 - 5481022 Indigent Health Care Fund - Indigent Health Care Srv	250,000.00
	<b>Warrant Total:</b>	<b>250,000.00</b>
<b>FUND 2420 TOTAL:</b>		<b>250,000.00</b>

# ***Galveston County, Texas***

List of County Auditor's Approved Claims For Voucher Warrants Dated 10/22/2012

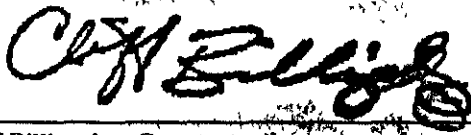
## **Summary of All Funds**

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2420 Indigent Health Care Fund	250,000 00
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b><u>250,000.00</u></b>

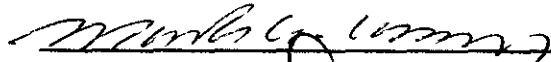
# Galveston County, Texas

List of County Auditor's Approved Claims For Voucher Warrants Dated 10/22/2012

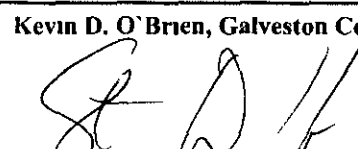
Approved Order to pay by Commissioners Court this day October 22, 2012



Cliff Billingsley, County Auditor



Mark A. Henry, Galveston County Judge

  
Patrick Doyle, Galveston County Commissioner, Pct 1  
Kevin D. O'Brien, Galveston County Commissioner, Pct 2  
Stephen D. Holmes, Galveston County Commissioner, Pct 3  
Kenneth Clark, Galveston County Commissioner, Pct 4

ATTEST:

  
Dwight D. Sullivan, County Clerk

By:  Deputy  
Brandy Chapman

\*\*Galv Cnty Production\*\* 10/22/12 O H C H E C K R E G I S T E R CHECK REGISTER Page 1  
MON, OCT 22 2012, 9 36 AM ---req DELEON\_A---leg GL JL---'oc AUDITOR---job 3624509 #5049---pgm BK200 <1 19> rpt 10 CKREG---  
A200301002 405006  
Check Payee ID Payee Name Date Check Amount Type Subs Rel To Note  
=====

STATE OF TEXAS 10/22/12 250,000 00 MW OH  
=====

G R A N D T O T A L S

Total Void Machine Written	0 00	Number of Checks Processed	0
Total Void Hand Written	0 00	Number of Checks Processed	0
Total Machine Written	250,000 00	Number of Checks Processed	1
Total Hand Written	0 00	Number of Checks Processed	0
Total Reversals	0 00	Number of Checks Processed	0
Total Cancelled	0 00	Number of Checks Processed	0

G R A N D T O T A L

250 000 00

AGENDA

ITEM

#3

NO  
BACK – UP  
PROVIDED



AGENDA

ITEM

#4

NO  
BACK – UP  
PROVIDED

AGENDA

ITEM

#5

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES ON BOLIVAR PENINSULA

Galveston County has received federal grant money for Hurricane Ike recovery. The funds are administered by the Texas General Land Office (GLO), which requires that the funds be used for hurricane recovery, not economic development. One proposed project is to install wastewater infrastructure on Bolivar Peninsula, which would be operated by a new wastewater utility district.

**Where will the plants be located?** High Island and Crystal Beach is where the wastewater plants will be located according to the Project Engineer. The boundary for the Crystal Beach service area is Monkhouse Road on the southwestern boundary and Pompano Drive being the northeast boundary. The boundary for the service area on High Island is the interior loop of Oil Field Road. The dual facilities' service area locations must be geographically located outside the COBRA zone. The Coastal Barrier Resources Act, better known as COBRA, prohibits the use of federal funds in protected coastal barriers.

**Will I have to pay connection fees?** Yes, unless you are low to moderate income then you may qualify to receive financial assistance for the hook-up fee (Market Study p. 2). All other customers must pay to connect to the system. The cost of connecting is not available at this time.

**Will I have to remove my septic tank?** Yes, according to the CDBG Grant Coordinator, the language in the federal grant requires septic tank removal, by a designated contractor, in order to connect to the wastewater system. If you are low to moderate income as defined by HUD, financial assistance for septic tank removal will be available. All other customers must pay to have their septic system removed.

**Will I be required to pay a monthly fee if I am Low to Moderate Income?** Yes, all customers of the wastewater plant will have a monthly bill. The actual rate will depend on the number of customers served. The monthly cost is approximately \$71 with 600 customers or up to \$115 with 400 customers connected to the wastewater plants (Market Study p. 17). The Market Study provides that the plant must generate sufficient revenue to sustain the utility. The expense estimates exclude major equipment, property acquisition, and capital expenditures for system upgrades (Market Study p. 19).

**Where will the wastewater go?** Once treated, the wastewater could be injected into a deep water well on High Island. The treated wastewater from Crystal Beach could be released into the Intracoastal Waterway along east Galveston Bay. Further details of the wastewater disposal can be provided by the CDBG Grant Coordinator.

**Can I be connected to the wastewater plant if I live in a COBRA zone?** The Coastal Barrier Resources Act prohibits the use of federal funds for development in a "Cobra Zone." According to the CDBG Grant Coordinator, the grant funds must be used for hurricane recovery, not economic development. Therefore, under this grant, sewer lines can't be placed in COBRA zones as the use of federal funds in this manner is prohibited. Although ordinarily private funds can be used in a COBRA zone, private funds

cannot be used to extend a federally funded wastewater project into a COBRA zone according to the guidelines provided to the CDBG Grant Coordinator

**Why is Commissioners Court Considering Alternate Projects?** The Market Study estimated that the wastewater treatment facility would cost the County \$28.2 million (p. 19). The County has approximately \$15 million available in Program Funding according to the CDBG Project Coordinator. According to the GLO, if the cost exceeds the money awarded, Galveston County will be responsible for any shortfall. Additionally, the Market Study stated the proposed wastewater facility will have an additional financial shortfall if residents in the service area do not connect.

The Project Engineer has expressed extreme difficulty in producing detailed, basic design information for the project maps. As a result, the environmental work order is on hold as the GLO has stated that they could not complete the scope of work, for the work order, until they have this information. As a result, if the project fails, it exposes the County to nearly \$3 million in liability. Figures provided by the CDBG Grant Coordinator estimates that the County will have to repay the following costs if the effort fails to produce a project:

- Environmental Services \$350,000-\$700,000
- Engineering Services  $\leq 15\%$  of the construction budget (approx. \$2.25 million)
- Property Acquisition \$250,000
- Very high chance of the possibility of wetlands being present
- Mitigation measures, if required, are not covered by the grant and would have to come out of the County General funds

# AGENDA ITEM

#6

NO  
BACK – UP  
PROVIDED